/n the statement (including enclosures) made b the Minister ot External Affairs in Rajya Sabha on 10th December, 1985.

Pollution in Delhi and Chandigarh atmosphere

3171. SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL: Will the PRIME MINI STER be pleased to state.

(a) whether Government are (aware of a report of the International Institute for Applied Systems Analysis based in Austria to the effect that Delhi has suspended pariculate matter to th© extent of 640-1000 microgram per cubic metre and that the annual geometric mean of dust in Cjhandifiarh is considerably higher than the American standard; and

(b) if so, what action Government propose to take to face the situation':

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT' AND FOREST (SHRI Z.R. ANSARI). (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Sea shells and living snail shells in Andaman Islands

3172. SHRI D. HEERACHAND; Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that sea shells and living snails shells found in and around the Andaman Islands are facing extinction due to their indiscriminate exports;

(b) whether Government propose to take any steps to protect those endangered species; and

fk) if so, the details of the steps Government propose to take to save the sea shells and living snails shells?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE [INISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND I FOREST (SHRI Z. FJ. ANSARI): (a) more is no evidence to this effect.

(b) and (c) Till 1983-84 sea shells I and iiving snail shells were exported | under open general licences. From ia(54-85, a restriction was imposed allu wing export 'On merit' basis only. The export consignments are also «uU-jec$_{L\ t}$o preshipmenl examination *ur*$_3$ (.lie regional offices of wildlife preset-vavion. Collection from protected area^ declared under Wild Life (Protection, Hot, 1972 is also prohibited.

To exercise control over the collection of ishells, licences are issued by the Deputy Commissioner, Andaman, under the Andaman and Nicobar Island Shell fishing Rules of 1976, unoer wnich shell fishing is prohibited aui-*mg* the breeding season (May-Sep Cencer; and sizes beiow 9.0 cm. are x.^ permitted for collection. Further, the area around Andaman and Nicobar Islands are divided into 9 zones, and he quantity allowed previously which Was 25 tonnes per each zone P^{e}r sea-■ bon, has now been reduced to 20 tonnes.

/he Andaman & Nicobar Islands Administration propose to establish a marine national part$_n$ an area rich in marine life.

Creation of welfare fund for Defence Personnel

3173. SHRI JAGADISH JANI; Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have crea ted any flind for the welfare of serving defence personnel, ex-servicemen, their families and dependents;

(b) when such funds have also been created at the State level; and